

Message Text

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TAGS: PGOV, PINR, KS, US

SUBJECT: NOVEMBER 29 FRASER SUB-COMMITTEE HEARINGS ON US-
KOREAN RELATIONS

1. FIRST DAY OF TWO-DAY HEARINGS BY CONGRESSMAN FRASER'S
SUBCOMMITTEE WAS TAKEN UP PRIMARILY WITH QUESTIONING OF
FORMER KCIA OFFICIAL SOHN HO YOUNG.
2. CONGRESSMAN FRASER OPENED WITH THREE-PAGE STATEMENT
NOTING ASSERTIONS OF FORMER EMBASSY OFFICER LEE JAI-HOON
THAT THE KCIA HAD DEVELOPED EXTENSIVE PLAN FOR "CLANDESTINE
OPERATIONS" IN THE U.S. HE THEN WENT ON TO OUTLINE COM-
MITTEE'S EVIDENCE: A COPY OF KCIA 1976 PLAN FOR OPERATIONS
IN THE U.S. (COPIES OF WHICH, WITH NAMES OF US PERSONS AND
ORGANIZATIONS DELETED WERE HANDED OUT TO THE PRESS.)
CONGRESSMAN SAID THAT ACTIONS WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN TAKEN
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BY KCIA TO IMPLEMENT PLANS MUST BE RECOGNIZED AS "OUTRIGHT
SUBVERSION". HE ALSO SAID THAT SUB-COMMITTEE WOULD
PRESENT INFORMATION IN NOVEMBER 30 SESSION SUGGESTING THAT
ROKG ATTEMPTED TO SUBORN TESTIMONY OF PREVIOUS WITNESS,
EX-KCIA DIRECTOR, KIM HYUNG WOOK.

3. SENIOR MINORITY MEMBER DERWINSKI SAID THAT HE WISHED

TO POINT OUT THAT THE MINORITY SIDE ON THE SUB-COMMITTEE

HAD NOT BEEN CONSULTED, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO COURSE OF THE INVESTIGATIONS, SELECTION OF WITNESSES, OR SHARING OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO STAFF. HE SAID THAT MINORITY MEMBERS HAD JUST BEEN HANDED COPIES OF KCIA PLAN AND JUST HEARD CHAIRMAN'S ALLUSION TO THE EXISTENCE OF A 1975 PLAN IN SOME FORM. HE COULD NOT, THEREFORE AGREE WITH CHAIRMAN'S CONCLUSION THAT "SUBVERSION" HAD BEEN PERPETRATED. HE AGREED THAT A CLOUD LAY OVER THE U.S.-ROK RELATIONSHIP, BUT WONDERED IF THE EXISTENCE OF THE CLOUD MIGHT BE DUE IN PART TO THE BARRAGE OF UNSUBSTANTIATED U.S. PRESS ATTACKS ON THE ROKG. AFTER ALL, HE SAID, THE U.S. AND THE ROK ARE ALLIES, AND WE FOR OUR PART SHOULD RESPECT KOREAN INSTITUTIONS AS WE DEMAND RESPECT FROM THEM OF OURS.

4. "PLAN" PRESENTED IN EVIDENCE, IS 24-PAGE DOCUMENT OUTLINING SITUATION IN THE U.S. IN DETAIL AND LISTING TARGET INDIVIDUALS AND STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO ACHIEVE GOALS. STEPS INCLUDE, INTER ALIA, CONTRIBUTIONS TO ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, TRIPS TO KOREA AND THE FUNDING OF RESEARCH PROJECTS IN U.S. UNIVERSITIES. MOST DAMAGING ASPECT IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION WAS USE OF WORDS LIKE "MANIPULATION" AND "COOPTION" WHEN REFERRING TO U.S. OFFICIALS. WE WILL CHECK KOREAN LANGUAGE.
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5. COMMITTEE QUESTIONED SOHN FOR MOST OF MORNING SESSION ON DETAILS OF HIS ASSIGNMENTS TO ROK CONGENS HOUSTON AND NEW YORK, AND TOUCHED BRIEFLY ON HIS EARLIER ASSIGNMENTS TO BANGKOK AND KCIA HEADQUARTERS IN SEOUL. COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED THAT "PLAN", ALTHOUGH PRESUMABLY WRITTEN BY KCIA OFFICIAL IN USA, HAD BEEN SEEN BY KCIA DIRECTOR IN LATE 1975. SOHN SAID THAT HE WAS GUIDED DURING HIS NEW YORK ASSIGNMENT BY GENERAL NEED TO KEEP TABS ON NORTH KOREANS, AND DID NOT HAVE SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS TO IMPLEMENT ANY PLAN. WHEN QUESTIONED FURTHER ON PLAN IN AFTERNOON SESSION, SOHN SAID THAT DRAFTER OF PLAN, HIS PREDECESSOR AS KCIA STATION CHIEF IN NEW YORK, HAD INFLATED PAST ACHIEVEMENTS AND LISTED NAMES OF AMERICANS AS TARGETS FOR INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS WHO WERE NOT REALLY GOOD PROSPECTS. HE DISCLAIMED KNOWLEDGE OF, OR PARTICIPATION IN, IMPLEMENTATION OF ANY ASPECT OF PLAN, BUT SAID THAT HIS MAIN JOB DURING TOUR IN NEW YORK WAS TO COMMUNICATE WITH KIM HYUNG WOOK. AT CONCLUSION OF HIS TESTIMONY, SOHN SAID THAT HE DOUBTED THAT MUCH, IF ANY, OF PLAN HAD BEEN IMPLEMENTED.

6. LATER WITNESSES WERE LEE CHONG-SIK, PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AT U OF PENN., ALAN KRAUSE, FSO FORMERLY IN SEOUL, AND STEFAN LIEDER, SENIOR RESEARCHER FROM INSTITUTE FOR DEFENSE ANALYSIS. THESE WITNESSES HAD BEEN LISTED AS "TARGETS" IN OPERATION PLAN. COMMITTEE QUESTIONING THEN PURSUED INFORMATION AS TO WHETHER WITNESSES HAD IN FACT BEEN APPROACHED BY KCIA. AT ONE POINT DURING QUESTIONING, CONGRESSMAN DERWINSKI PURSUED APPROACH THAT THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE JUSTIFICATION ON KOREAN SIDE FOR SEEKING TO ENSURE CONTINUED US SUPPORT AND CHARACTERIZED PLAN AS POSSIBLY MORE OF A BUREAU-CRATICALLY SELF-SERVING DOCUMENT WRITTEN TO THE ADVANTAGE OF THE KCIA STATION CHIEF IN THE FIELD AND WAS NOT NECESSARILY AN APPROVED ROKG PLAN OF ACTION.

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7. FINAL WITNESS WAS PROFESSOR YOUNG-C. KIM OF CENTER FOR SINO-SOVIET STUDIES AT GEORGE WASHINGTON U. HE INDICATED HE HAD VISITED NORTH KOREA TWICE IN RECENT YEARS, AND GENERALLY DESCRIBED CONTACTS BETWEEN ROK OFFICIALS AND GWU. SUCH CONTACT INCLUDED A DOLS 20,000 GRANT FROM MINISTRY OF EDUCATION FOR PARTIAL FUNDING OF SEMINAR ON KOREA. FRASER INTRODUCED SUBJECT OF GWU INVITATION OF PARK CHUNG-KYU (HEAD OF PRESIDENTIAL SECURITY) TO LECTURE AT GWU, AND PRESSED KIM ON POINT THAT INVITATION FROM GWU CAME AT SUGGESTION OF AMB. SNEIDER (INTRODUCED INTO RECORD LETTER OF FEBRUARY 14, 1975 FROM SNEIDER TO HEAD OF INSTITUTE EXPRESSING THANKS FOR INVITING PARK). KIM RESPONDED THAT SUCH SUGGESTIONS FROM EMBASSIES WERE BOTH COMMON AND HELPFUL. HE CONCLUDED WITH STATEMENT THAT ATTEMPTS BY ONE GOVERNMENT TO INFLUENCE PUBLIC OPINION IN ANOTHER COUNTRY NOT NECESSARILY BAD--THAT USG DOES THIS.

8 CORRESPONDENT MENTIONED TO DEPT OFFICERS AT HEARING THAT HE BELIEVES RECORD SHOWS PARK CHUNG-KYU WAS KOREAN OFFICIAL WHO HANDED FUNDS TO WHITE HOUSE OFFICIAL (NEIDECKER) IN 1974. HE SAID PRESS MAY PLAY UP THIS ASPECT OF STORY.

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